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International Bureau**INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)**

(51) International Patent Classification 7 : A61K 31/00		A2	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/21509 (43) International Publication Date: 20 April 2000 (20.04.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB99/03302		(81) Designated States: JP, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).	
(22) International Filing Date: 15 October 1999 (15.10.99)			
(30) Priority Data: 9822458.7 15 October 1998 (15.10.98) GB 9822459.5 15 October 1998 (15.10.98) GB 9917181.1 23 July 1999 (23.07.99) GB		Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>	
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(54) Title: METHODS OF TREATMENT**(57) Abstract**

A method of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an agent which reduces sympathetic nervous system activity. A method of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of any one or more of the following: a compound which inhibits the effect of aldosterone such as an aldosterone antagonist; a chymase inhibitor; a cathepsin B inhibitor; a β receptor blocker; an imidazoline receptor antagonist; a centrally acting α receptor antagonist; a peripherally acting α receptor antagonist; a ganglion blocking agent; a drug that has an effect on cardiovascular reflexes and thereby reduces SNS activity such as an opiate; scopolamine; an endothelin receptor antagonist; and a xanthine oxidase inhibitor. The methods are particularly useful in treating cardiac cachexia.